

Mansfield Conservation Commission

Meeting of November 20, 2002 - Audrey P. Beck Bldng., Conf. Room B

Call to Order: 7:26 PM.

Adjourn: 9:15 PM

Note: late call to order due to informal discussion with Richard Miller and Tom Callahan from the University of Connecticut.

Present: *Members* - Robert Thorson, , Lance Minkler, Mary Rodgers, Frank Trainor, Quentin Kessel, John Silander, Bob Dahn *Staff* - None. *Visitors* - Richard Miller and Tom Callahan.

Minutes: Approved at 8:06 unanimously.

Fenton Water Levels: No comment.

Torrey Property: Mary notes that invasive species are superabundant and should be taken into account in the plan. The committee acknowledged its growing concern over this issue in all town properties. Robert Dahn agreed to talk to the "equine experts" to review the notion of meadow grazing for brush/grass control.

Fenton Level A: The committee received the response from the DEP (Fred Banach) regarding the MCC subcommittees concerns, which were effectively dismissed, largely because the concerns were relevant not to Level A Mapping, but to the instream analysis now being done. The subcommittee (largely Thorson's responsibility) had misunderstood that the Level A Mapping was not about protecting the river; rather it was about protecting the well heads. Thorson agreed to re-train his thought processes, which automatically integrate environmental problems, rather than atomize them. The subcommittee will report on this further at the next meeting.

Draft EIE - Downtown Mansfield: Lance/Mary move to support Padick's overall take on the issue *vis a vis* his memo of 11/8/02, but we want a chance to review the field plan when building footprints are in place. We regret the late timing of our opportunity for involvement. Unanimous.

PZC Referrals:

Pine Grove Estates: The plan (or map) was so confusing we couldn't review it. It was incomprehensible to the committee.

Stone Walls: Thorson informed the committee that he was at work on a statewide initiative to prevent the unnecessary destruction, strip-mining, and out-of-state export of stone walls. He will bring materials to the town for distribution.

Communications: Thorson/Trainor move that the CC recommend purchase of the Fesik property to the Town Council. Unanimous.